

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4810

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EIND, MILL, NATO

SUBJECT: ECONADS: DEFENSE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE ALLIANCE

REF: A) USNATO 4709; B) STATE 193915

SUMMARY. ECONADS DISCUSSION SEPTEMBER 5 OF DRAFT REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

ON DEFENSE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE ALLIANCE (ED/EC/74/61)
REVEALED UNANIMOUS RECOGNITION OF SERIOUSNESS OF THE PROBLEM AND
AGREEMENT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE SHOULD BE ABLE TO PLAY A HELPFUL ROLE,
BUT A WIDE DIFFERENCE OF VIEWS AS TO HOW FAR AND HOW RAPIDLY ECONAD
STUDIES SHOULD PROCEED WITHOUT SPECIFIC DIRECTION FROM THE CNAD.
COMMITTEE AGREED ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE SHOULD PRODUCE A NEW DRAFT
REPORT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT VIEWS EXPRESSED BY ALLIED REPS,
FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 12.
MISSION WOULD APPRECIATE COMMENTS ON ALLIED VIEWS REPORTED HEREIN
AND ON MORE DETAILED POINTS MADE BY UK REP DURING MEETING (SEPTTEL).
END SUMMARY.

1. US ECONAD LED OFF DISCUSSION BY STRESSING IMPORTANCE US
ATTACHES TO ACHIEVING GREATER PROGRESS TOWARD STANDARDIZATION,
INTEROPERABILITY, AND REDUCTION OF DUPLICATION AND INEFFICIENCY
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IN ALLIANCE DEFENSE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY. US REP SAID WE
RECOGNIZE THAT THE CNAD HAS ASSIGNED ADIT WORKING GROUP THE
TASK OF ASSEMBLING AND ANALZING INFORMATION ON ALLIANCE R
AND D IN THE FIELD OF TACTICAL MISSILES, AND THAT THE ECONOMIC

COMMITTEE SHOULD WORK AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE WITH THIS GROUP. HOWEVER, SINCE ADIT WILL NOT COMPLETE ITS STUDY FOR SOMETIME, PRELIMINARY US VIEW IS THAT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE SHOULD SEEK COUNCIL APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH ITS OWN STUDIES ON A STE-BY-STEP BASIS AS OUTLINED IN REF A, BEGINNING WITH THE WORK DESCRIBED IN PARA 5 OF ED/EC/74/61.

2. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ENCOURAGING US RESPONSE, AND ASKED IF ECONADS COULD NOT AGREE TO PROCEED ALSO WITH WORK OUTLINED IN PARAS. 6-8 OF DOCUMENT, SINCE QUESTIONS WERE ALL INTERRELATED; AND PARTICULARLY BECAUSE IN THIS ERA OF RESOURCE SHORTAGE, ECONOMIC RATIONALIZATION HAS BECOME A NECESSITY IN ADDITION TO A DESIRABILITY. CHAIRMAN ALSO SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR COMMITTEE TO PROCEED WITH BROAD ANALYSIS OF THE STRUCTURE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS INDUSTRIES (PARA 12 OF ED/EC/74/61) ALONG WITH MORE SPECIALIZED STUDIES FLOWING FROM REQUESTS BY CNAD AND ADIT WORKING GROUP. SUCH BROADER ANALYSIS WOULD FACILITATE LATER WORK ON MORE SPECIFIC ITEMS OF DEFENSE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY.

3. BELGIAN, UK, AND FRENCH REPS ALL OPPOSED GENERAL ANALYSIS OF ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY AS SUGGESTED BY CHAIRMAN SINCE THEY CONSIDERED IT IMPRACTICAL TO PRODUCE ANYTHING MORE THAN A BROAD-BRUSH, ABSTRACT STUDY OF LITTLE VALUE. AT SUGGESTION OF BELGIAN REP, ECONADS AGREED CHAIRMAN MIGHT MODIFY PARA 12 TO READ QTE IN ORDER TO MAKE A MORE USEFUL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF ALLIANCE DEFENSE INDUSTRY, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR THE ECONOMIC COMMITTEE TO HAVE AVAILABLE MORE EXTENSIVE INFORMATION ABOUT THE ARMAMENTS INDUSTRY OF MEMBER COUNTRIES. TO THIS END ALLIED COUNTRIES SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SUPPLY ALL INFORMATION AVAILABLE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE TASKS CARRIED ON IN CNAD UNQTE.

4. ALL OTHER ECONADS WERE WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, EXCEPT UK REP WHO PROPOSED EXTENSIVE CHANGES FOR TEXT OF DRAFT REPORT WHICH HE WILL DISTRIBUTE IN WRITING TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS (SEPTTEL). UK REP ADDED THAT WHILE UK IS CONVINCED OF ABSOLUTE URGENCY OF PROBLEM, IT IS ALSO CONVINCE OF NECESSITY TO AVOID CONFUSING WORK OF OTHER GROUPS, PARTICULARLY CNAD AND ADIT WORKING GROUP.
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